REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR February 20, 2004

BROWNFIELDS LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS MONDAY

Legislative hearings will be held Monday, February 23 on two bills intended to promote brownfield cleanup and redevelopment in Wisconsin. Senate bill 471 would give DNR clear authority to accept a brownfields revolving loan grant from EPA. This bill would support the Wisconsin Brownfield Coalition's application to EPA for \$4 million to be distributed in grants and loans to local governments. The second bill, Senate bill 472, would give the state authority to contract with an insurance provider to set up an optional insurance program for environmental cleanups. This program could provide private coverage with a fixed rate and standard protections to property owners and local governments. For example, when certain provisions have been met, property owners could obtain coverage for unanticipated expenses during remediation if a site investigation report and a remedial action plan have been approved by DNR.

The Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources will hold hearings for both bills at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 23 in room 330 Southwest, in the State Capitol building, Madison. Following the hearing the committee may take executive action on the bills. A press release from the bills' sponsors, Senators Roessler, Panzer and Kedzie, is on Senator Roessler's web page at http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen18/news/pr2004/pr2004-009.htm. Written comments and emails can be sent to members of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources – members are listed on Senator Kedzie's web page at http://www.legis.state.wi.us/senate/sen11/news/committee.htm. The two bill drafts can be found at: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/SB-471.pdf and http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2003/data/SB-472.pdf.

REMINDER - NORTHEAST REGION CONSULTANT DAY MARCH 31

Space is still available for the RR Program's Northeast Region Consultant Day in Kimberly on March 31st. The agenda and registration form is available at http://www.fetinc.org/3-31-04NERConsultantsDay.pdf.

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